

In the Claims

1-44 (canceled).

45 (new). A DNA construct comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding an immunoglobulin signal peptide (IgSP) fused to a tissue-type plasminogen activator (tPA) propeptide to form an IgSP-tPA pre-propeptide.

46 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said immunoglobulin signal peptide is a murine immunoglobulin signal peptide.

47 (new). The DNA construct of claim 46, wherein said murine immunoglobulin signal peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

48 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said tPA propeptide is a human tPA propeptide, the carboxyl-terminal extremity of said tPA propeptide consisting of amino acids Arg-Xaa-Arg-Arg.

49 (new). The DNA construct of claim 48, wherein said tPA propeptide consists of amino acids 23 to 32 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

50 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said tPA propeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

51 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said construct comprises SEQ ID NO: 3 fused to a nucleic acid encoding amino acids 23 to 32 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

52 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said DNA construct or said construct comprises SEQ ID NO: 3 fused to SEQ ID NO: 1.

53 (new). The DNA construct of claim 45, wherein said DNA construct encodes a fusion polypeptide comprising said IgSP-tPA pre-propeptide fused to a polypeptide of interest.

54 (new). A vector comprising a DNA construct according to claim 45.

55 (new). An isolated host cell transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 45.

56 (new). The host cell of claim 55, wherein said cell is a CHO cell.

57 (new). A process for the production of a polypeptide of interest comprising the transfecting a host cell with a DNA construct of claim 53 and culturing the cell under conditions that allow for the production of said polypeptide of interest.

58 (new). The process of claim 57, further comprising isolating the polypeptide of interest from said host cells.